Cultural Analysis of Coco

HUM260 - Kristine Raine Garcia
Dia de los Muertos

Photos allow for the dead to cross over to land of the living

Skulls sugar skulls to honor loved ones

Food are offerings and attract the deceased

Things They Love also offerings and entices loved ones to come celebrate
Female ghost who wanders searching for her children (that she murdered)

Said to capture kids out of desperation

Used as a warning, especially for kids
Xoloitzcuitli, the Mexican hairless dog, is from Aztec legend.

Dante is mistaken as an alebrije, a spirit guide.

Dante accompanies Miguel throughout his journeys in the Land of the Dead.
FAMILY

heavy emphasis throughout the film
Miguel’s passion throughout the film, despite his family’s wishes.

Builds connections between people, especially family.
Creators vs Voice Actors

Screenwriters, Directors, and Producers

- Nationalities are American
- Years of research on Mexican-heritage and culture prior to making of the film
- Cannot add or relate to the culture themselves

Voice Actors

- Exclusively Latinx
- Anthony Gonzalez, voice actor for Miguel
- Other voice actors
- Are able to connect on a deeper level due to heritage and family
Skulls

Death
More commonly used as a symbol for death
Sugar skulls represent their love ones and honor them

Mockery
Dia de los Muertos uses bright colors and amusing skulls to make death not so morbid
Marigolds

“Attract the souls of the dead to the ofrendas prepared for them” and “possess cleansing properties”

Symbolize the connection between the living and dead
Political and Economic Commentary

**Land of the Dead**
Represents middle class and wealth

**Almost-forgotten People**
Represents working class and poverty
Social and Cultural Commentary

Imelda

Coco

Enrique

Elena

Miguel?
Thanks!

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Works Cited


